3693 South Old Spanish Trail Tucson, AZ 85730

520-733-5100 phone 520-733-5183 fax

Saguaro National Park News Release

14-19

For Release on January 24, 2014 January 23, 2014

Contact: Natasha Kline, 520 733 5171

Saguaro National Park's Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment is Available for Public Review and Comment.

Tucson, AZ – Saguaro National Park is releasing a Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment (EA) on Friday, January 24 for public review and comment.

The plan includes alternative actions intended to restore natural vegetation, and to mitigate negative impacts to park lands from damage caused by fire, flood, invasive species or other human causes. One of the alternative actions is the targeted, aerial delivery of herbicide to combat buffelgrass in areas of the park that are not reachable by ground crews. The EA includes an analysis of each proposed alternative to determine potential environmental impacts and takes into account feedback from the public which has already been received.

We invite and appreciate the public's continued participation in this process. Interested public can view the document, starting January 24 on the park's website (http://nps.gov/sagu) or by request at either park visitor center: Red Hills Visitor Center in the Tucson Mountain District (west), or Rincon Mountain Visitor Center in the Rincon Mountain District (east).

Comments will be accepted until February 24, 2014, in two formats:

1. **Best Option:** comment directly through the National Park Service's Planning, Environment and Public Comment website: http://parkplanning.nps.gov/SNPRPEA

or

2. Send written comments to: Darla Sidles, Superintendent

Saguaro National Park 3693 S. Old Spanish Trail Tucson, AZ 85730

Please submit comments no later than February 24, 2014

For any questions please contact: Natasha Kline,

Planning and Compliance Coordinator

(520) 733 - 5171

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